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Attorney Docket No. *4*  
**D/A1497**

on \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of Markus Fromherz et al.

Group Art Unit:

Application No.:

Examiner:

Filed:

For: PROBLEM PARTITIONING METHOD AND SYSTEM

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) and information listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. One legible copy of each is attached to the PTO-1449 Form. It is respectfully requested that the references and information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

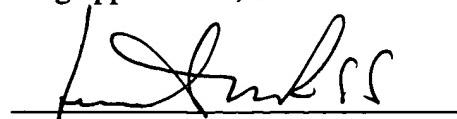
- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of the above application (which is not a CPA), OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. *No certification or fee is required.*
- 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection, Notice of Allowance, or other action that closes prosecution. Please debit Xerox Corporation Deposit Account 24-0025 in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p). *(A copy of this paper is attached.)*
- 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance; AND
  - a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)(1); **(OR)**

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- b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c), more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)(2)
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  - a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)(1); (**OR**)
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- 5. Per 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a)(3), a concise explanation of the relevance of each of any submitted item that is NOT in the English language is either enclosed herewith, or incorporated in the application specification.
- 6. A copy of an English language version of an above-referenced counterpart foreign application search report is attached.
- 7. Copies of some or all of the subject references were cited by, or submitted to the Office in related parent Application No. , filed , which is relied upon under 35 U.S.C. §120. Thus, copies of these references are not attached (except for copies of cited pending applications). 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d).
- 8. A copy of each copending application recited in the parent application of paragraph 7 above, and/or a copy of other related copending applications, is enclosed.



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Date 12/18/2001

Form PTO-1449  US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE  INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)	ATTY DOCKET NO. D/A1497	APPLICATION NO.
	APPLICANT	Markus Fromherz et al.
	FILING DATE	GROUP ART UNIT

12/20/01

## **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

## **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

	COUNTRY	DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	NAME OF PATENTEE OR APPLICANT	TRANSLATION Y/N

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author (in CAPS), Title, Publication Date, Pages, etc.)**


**EXAMINER**

**DATE CONSIDERED**

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.